

Treasury Department,

Bureau of the Mint,

Washington, April 21, 1899.

Mr. J. K. FitzGibbon,
Treasury Agent, U. S. Express Company,
Washington, D. C.

Sir:

Referring to the subject of several conversations between us,
i.e. the removal of \$65,000,000 in silver dollars from the old
to the new vaults of the Mint at Philadelphia, I have to say:

As this silver does not pass out of the Institution in which it
now is, we do not consider this removal to be transportation within
the meaning or purview of the contract with your Company, and think
the contract would not be violated if the Superintendent made it
himself.

We are disposed, however, to have the work done by your
Company and pay a rate sufficient to compensate fairly for the
labor and risk involved. After going over the subject carefully
the conclusion has been reached that ten cents (\$0.10) per \$1,000.
would do this amply and I do not see my way to allow more.

This silver is boxed, \$1,000 in a box. The weight of a box
(60 pounds) and the facts that the route is through the heart of the
City and that the work will be done in daylight reduce the risk
of loss almost to nothing.

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I understand from you that your Company claims this work under its contract, but is disposed to make a special rate for this case if it may do so without the fact being used as a precedent. The case is an unusual one; and I am quite willing that one like it occurs again it shall be settled upon its merits without reference to the action at this time.

Please advise me at once of your conclusion upon this proposition.

Very truly yours,



Director of the Mint.

RG104 E-235 Vol 305 Misc Correspondence

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Office of the Secretary,
Washington,

April 21, 1899

Mr. J. K. Fitzgibbon,
Treasury Agent, U.S. Express Company,
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Sir:

Referring to the subject of several conversations between us, i.e., the removal of \$65,000,000 in silver dollars from the old to the new vaults of the Mint at Philadelphia, I have to say: As this silver does not pass out of the Institution in which it now is, we do not consider this removal to be transportation within the meaning or purview of the contract with your Company, and think the contract would not be violated if the Superintendent made it himself.

We are disposed, however, to have this work done by your company and pay a rate sufficient to compensate fairly for the labor and risk involved. After going over the subject carefully the conclusion has been reached that ten cents (10¢) per \$1,000 would do this amply and I do not see my way to allow more.

This silver is boxed, \$1,000 in a box. The weight of a box (60 pounds) and the facts that the route is through the heart of the city and that the work will be done in daylight, reduce the risk of loss almost to nothing.

I understand from you that your Company claims this work under its contracts, but is disposed to make a special rate for this case if it may do so without the fact being used as a precedent. The case is an unusual one; and I am quite willing that if one like it occurs again it shall be settled upon its merits without reference to the action at this time.

Please advise me at once of your conclusions upon this proposition.

Very truly yours,

[Signature] George E. Roberts
Director of the Mint.